

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 20, 24-28, and 31-53 are pending. Claims 1-19, 21-23, and 29-30 have been canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer. Claims 20 and 28 have been amended. New claims 39-53 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Applicants believe the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Applicants note with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 23, 24, 30, and 31 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 20 has been amended to include the features of previous claims 21 and 23. Thus, claim 20 and claims 24-27 depending therefrom are allowable.

Claim 28 has been amended to include the feature of previous claims 29 and 30. Thus, claim 28 and claims 31-38 depending therefrom are allowable.

Previous claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 39. Thus, claim 39 and claims 40-44 depending therefrom are allowable.

Previous claim 31 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 45. Thus, claim 45 and claims 46-53 depending therefrom are allowable.

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Reply to Office Action of: March 21, 2006



PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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